

Groundwater Workshops for Educators–2010

Apply by November 2, 2009

About the workshops

Help your students visualize the movement of groundwater and pollutants through underground materials.

At this 1-day workshop for educators, you'll receive:

- ▶ A free sand tank model (valued at \$400), plus training on using and maintaining the model.
- ▶ A notebook filled with educational materials for expanding your environmental education curriculum.
- ▶ Plus, schools are eligible for reimbursement of \$100 per teacher to help cover substitute teacher costs.

Workshop dates and locations

Workshops run from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. Space is limited to 8 pairs of educators per location.

January 20: Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, 1660 East Shore, Green Bay, 54302; 920-391-3671

January 27: Spooner Agricultural Research Station, W6646 Highway 70, Spooner, 54801; 715-635-3735

February 3: WGNHS Core Lab, 211 South Blue Mounds St., Mount Horeb, 53572; 608-262-1705

The fine print

Eligibility requirements

Two educators from your organization must jointly complete the application form and submit it by November 2, 2009. We'll review the forms and notify top candidates by early December 2009.

What's required of participants?

In exchange for the free sand tank model and school reimbursement, we require applicants to complete the following activities:

1. Attend a 1-day training session on using the model (January or February).
2. Incorporate the model into your classroom curriculum or nature center programs.
3. Demonstrate the groundwater flow model to students before May 2010.
4. Involve parents in at least one take-home activity.
5. Complete a 2-page survey by May 31, 2010.

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About the sand tank model ▶

This interactive classroom tool shows how water and contaminants flow through different types of materials. The model allows students to "see" groundwater in action. During the workshop, you'll learn to demonstrate how contaminants move into an aquifer and disperse, how leakage from landfills can move into drinking water, how pumping from wells creates a cone of depression, and more.

For more information about the model:
www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/awra/h2omodel.html.



More about **Groundwater Workshops for Educators – 2010**

Selection criteria

Staff from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and University of Wisconsin–Extension will evaluate applications and select eight pairs of educators for each workshop based on the following criteria:

1. Schools or nature centers with an existing or planned curriculum related to groundwater.
2. Plans to use the model outside of the classroom involving the families of students.
3. The number of people/students, types of classes and grades involved.
4. Preference will be given to schools that have not previously received a model through this workshop.

Who conducts the workshops?

Faculty and staff from the UW-Stevens Point Center for Watershed Science and Education and Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey conduct the trainings with assistance from WDNR Drinking Water and Groundwater staff and UW-Extension Basin Educators.

Why is the DNR offering the workshops?

The DNR is committed to protecting Wisconsin's valuable groundwater. It is the DNR's goal to educate students, parents and communities to make informed decisions about their drinking water supply.

Why teach about groundwater?

About 70% of Wisconsin residents get their drinking water from groundwater. However, this "buried treasure" is vulnerable to pollution from many sources. In some areas of Wisconsin, the amount of groundwater available for drinking has become limited. Teaching students and their parents about protecting groundwater can lead to cleaner, more abundant drinking water for future generations.

What past participants say about the workshops

"The groundwater model is a necessity in my environmental science classroom."

"Exceptional experience at the workshop. Very good resources/handouts. The model is a gold mine."

For more information

Laura Chern – DG/5; Hydrogeologist,
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources,
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
tel: 877-268-9355 (toll free) fax: 608-267-7650
email: laura.chern@wisconsin.gov



DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION

To download a copy of the application form, visit
www.dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/gw/education/2009application.pdf

Submit material by November 2, 2009.